

TENNESSEE GENERAL ASSEMBLY  
FISCAL REVIEW COMMITTEE



**FISCAL NOTE**

**HB 2347 - SB 2461**

March 2, 2014

**SUMMARY OF BILL:** Establishes that a qualified conservation organization also includes any department or agency of the United States government which acquires an easement pursuant to law for the purpose of restoring or conserving land for natural resources, water, air and wildfire.

**ESTIMATED FISCAL IMPACT:**

**Decrease Local Revenue – \$15,000**

Assumptions:

- The proposed bill would extend greenbelt open space eligibility to a property that is the subject of a conservation easement conveyed to a federal conservation agency, in addition to a state or local agency or a qualified private conservation organization.
- According to the Comptroller of the Treasury, two counties indicate a probable decrease of \$3,000 in property tax revenue for the local government, representing the difference between market value and greenbelt use value for a total of four properties affected.
- Assuming that a total of approximately ten West Tennessee counties, where wetlands acquisitions are likely to be accomplished by easements conveyed to a federal agency, and decreases in property tax revenue occur in a similar manner as estimated by the Comptroller, the total recurring decrease in local government revenue as a result of this bill is estimated to be \$15,000 (\$3,000 x 5). The first-year impacted by this is assumed to be FY14-15.

**CERTIFICATION:**

The information contained herein is true and correct to the best of my knowledge.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Lucian D. Geise".

Lucian D. Geise, Executive Director

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